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See Blogologues turn your newsfeed into sketch comedy. 18

WINTER MOVIES ARE HERE

From 'Star Wars' to 'Jackie' there's a film for everyone. 14-17

State senators give school cafeterias a failing grade. 2

THE CHRISTENING OF KRISTAPS

New York embraces Kristaps Porzingis after draft night boos and now the young Knicks star is, in turn, embracing NYC. 20



ILLUSTRATION BY BILLY BECERRA

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1. What materials are artists using in their works for a new exhibit titled "Re-Enliven"?
2. How many points did Kristaps Porzingis score against the Timberwolves Wednesday night?
3. What Shakespeare film did "Assassin's Creed" stars Michael Fassbender and Marion Cotillard act in last year?

3 things you need to know

GRIM HOLLANDE SAYS HE WON'T SEEK SECOND TERM AS FRENCH PRESIDENT

President Francois Hollande shocked France on Thursday by announcing he would not seek a second term next year, acknowledging his deep unpopularity and making way for another leftist candidate to take on conservative Francois Fillon and far-right leader Marine Le Pen. The surprise announcement — effectively an admission that by running again he would hurt his party's chances — marks the first time since France's fifth Republic was created in 1958 that an incumbent president has not sought a second mandate. "I am aware today of the risk that going down a route that would not gather sufficient support would entail, so I have decided not to be a candidate in the presidential election," a somber-looking Hollande said in a televised address. Dogged by high unemployment, Hollande is the least popular president in French polling history, yet his closest aides had consistently said he would run. **REUTERS**



POLICE: SON DISMEMBERS PARENTS, DISSOLVED BODIES IN ACID

Authorities have arrested a 28-year-old man accused of stabbing his parents to death, dismembering their bodies, and trying to dissolve pieces of their body in acid in an attempt to destroy evidence. Joel Michael Guy, Jr. was arrested at his apartment in Baton Rouge, Louisiana and charged with two counts of first degree murder. Police say he visited his parents for Thanksgiving at their home in Knoxville, Tennessee and may have snapped after his parents told him they were going to financially cut him off. **REUTERS**

DELTA PILOTS GET 30 PERCENT RAISE OVER THREE YEARS IN NEW CONTRACT

Delta Air Lines pilots voted to approve a contract delivering a 30 percent raise over three years as the aviation industry faces widespread demand for higher wages to fly planes at a time of large profits. The contract also allows the pilots to keep existing gains on profit sharing. Eighty-two percent of pilots who voted approved the deal, with 95 percent of eligible pilots voting, according to Delta's unit of the Air Line Pilots Association, International. The approval comes after pilots rejected a tentative agreement last year, which some said offered wage increases at the expense of more lucrative profit-sharing. **REUTERS**

For more local news, visit metro.usMETRO.US
WEEKEND, DECEMBER 2-4, 2016

GETTY IMAGES

New report exposes nauseous conditions in NYC school cafeterias

Poop, flies and roaches, oh my!



AMANDA MIKELBERG
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It's lunchtime!

A first of its kind report released Thursday exposed the true extent of the nastiness lurking in hundreds of the city's school cafeterias.

The report, "School Lunch Flunks: An Investigation into the Dirtiest New York City Public School Cafeterias," noted that 8,114 violations were found at 1,377 cafeterias inspected in 2015-16. Seventeen percent of those violations are considered "critical."

Critical violations affect food safety and are issued when inspectors find mice, roaches, flies or pest droppings on the premises. Cooking food at incorrect tempera-

tures and unsanitary food handling are also considered critical violations.

State Sens. Jeff Klein, Diane Savino, Jesse Hamilton and Senator-elect Marisol Alcantara authorized the report and want to introduce legislation that would provide better transparency of these hazards as they often go unknown except for an occasional news report.

The lawmakers propose that the Department of Health issue letter grades to school cafeterias as it does for restaurants. The letter grades would be displayed in the same fashion as restaurants.

"This report shows that many of the cafeterias in our city schools have racked up numerous health code violations, and that parents have no way of knowing about these violations.

If parents can make decisions about the restaurants they frequent based on a letter grade, they should have the same knowledge about where their children eat every day," Klein said at a news conference unveiling the report.

The DOH uses the same numerical grading for cafeterias as public establishments, and based on that data the report then assigned corresponding letter grades to schools. Inspection scores of 14 or under correspond to an A, 14-28 earns a B, and 28 and above gets a C.

For instance, the cafeteria in Manhattan's Sixth Avenue Elementary School, where inspectors found 400 mice feces during one visit, would receive a C for its inspection score of 41.

Over 300 hundreds schools had 442 mice citations in the past

year. Sixty-one schools had cockroaches in the cafeteria, and about 400 schools had other pest-related violations.

"Filth flies" violations were issued against 136 schools.

A representative for the Department of Health told Metro that they are reviewing the proposed legislation.

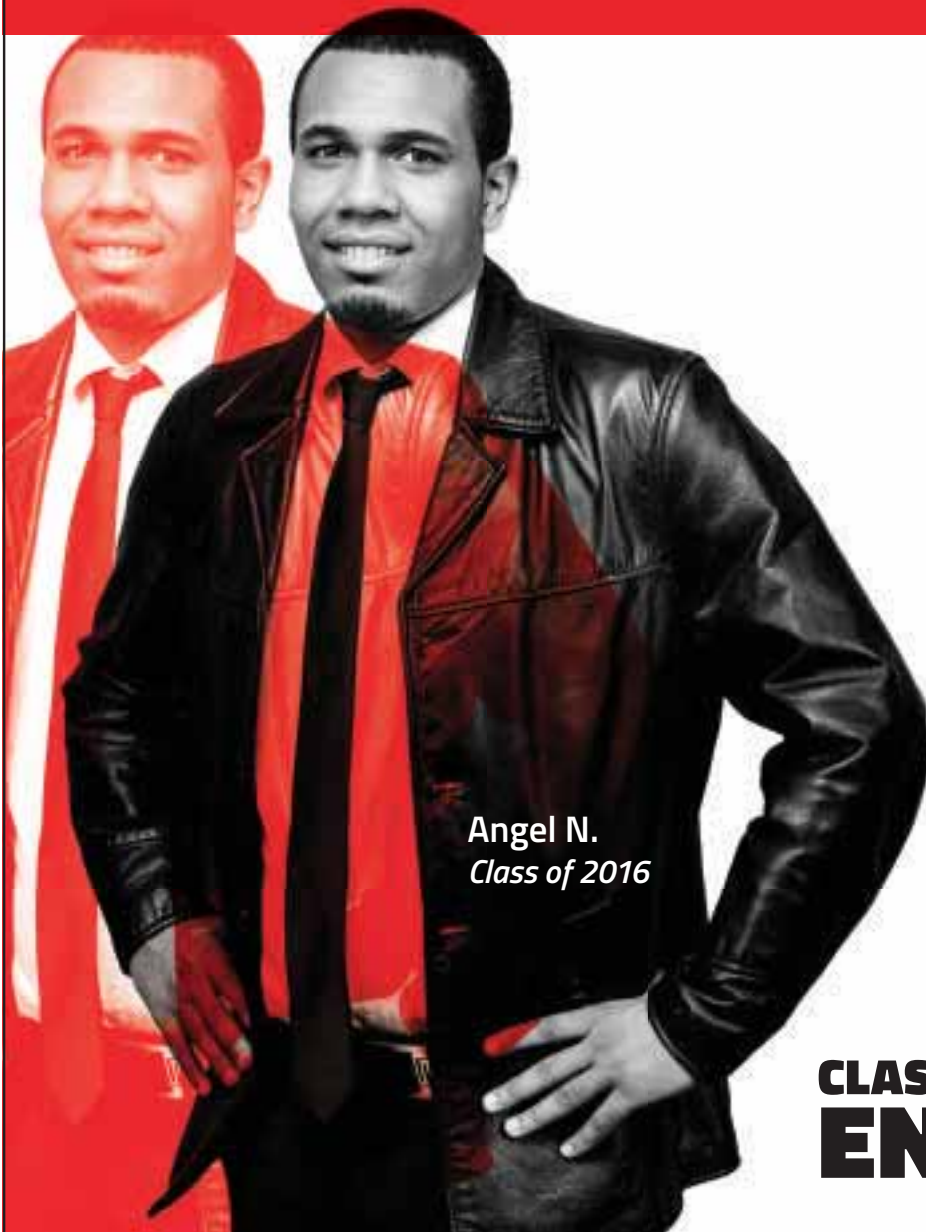
"School cafeterias perform very well on health inspections, with 86 percent earning the equivalent of an 'A' grade on initial inspection compared to 59 percent of restaurants," the rep told Metro.

"Students can be confident that schools are serving food that is safe for them to eat."

A representative for Klein told Metro: "We hope that they would support this effort for the health and well-being of students who attend the schools."

GET THE DEGREE TO GET AHEAD.

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A photograph of two men. The man in the foreground is wearing a black leather jacket over a red shirt and a dark tie. He is smiling and has his hands on his hips. The man behind him is also smiling and wearing a red shirt and a red tie.

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Bank robbery suspects have hit multiple NYC branches in recent weeks

In each case, a suspect passes the teller a note demanding money, but does not show a weapon.

ALEXI FRIEDMAN
@MetroNewYork
letters@metro.us

Bank robbers appear to have become more brazen in New York City in recent weeks, with at least three having made multiple attempts each over the course of a few days.

Surveillance cameras have captured the confrontations and the NYPD has released images or video clips of the suspects, asking for the public's assistance. That has not stopped the bandits from striking, all in the afternoon hours. In each case, the assailant walks up to a teller and passes a note demanding money, police said, then walks away. No weapon was shown in any of the robberies, police said.

In the latest incidents, the same man is believed to have robbed two Chase branches in Queens.

The first robbery



The NYPD is looking for this man, wanted for robbing two Queens banks, one in Flushing on Nov. 23 and the other in Jamaica on Nov. 30. In the past several weeks, three suspects have robbed multiple bank branches in New York City, police said. **NYPD**

happened on Nov. 23 in Flushing, when the man entered the branch at 196-03 Northern Blvd. at about 2 p.m. The other incident happened on Nov. 30 in Jamaica, when police say the same man walked into a location at 184-01 Hillside Ave., at about 3 p.m. He fled in a black

Lincoln Town Car, authorities said. Each time, the teller handed the man money, though police would not say how much.

Police are still searching for the suspect, who is described as about 6-foot-4 and 200 pounds, and was last seen wearing a black puffy coat

and jeans.

The incidents followed two bank robberies in Manhattan and one unsuccessful attempt in Brooklyn, all by another suspect, between Nov. 23 and 28, authorities said. Police say that man, clad in a black and red puffy coat, got away with a

combined \$2,000, hopping over a teller's counter and snatching a cash box in one of the robberies. He is still being sought.

In late October, police arrested a man on the Upper East Side after unsuccessfully trying to rob a bank, minutes after having just

robbed another one, the New York Post reported. John Gregg, 39, was turned away by a teller at a Citibank on East 82nd Street after having passed a note demanding money. He had just gotten away with \$720 from a Ridge-wood Savings Bank on East 74th Street a few minutes before, after passing a similar note, the paper reported.

NYPD detectives are also on the lookout for a suspect who they say robbed a Valley National Bank in Flushing on Nov. 28, at about 1:15 p.m. He also made off with an unspecified amount, and is described as 55 to 60 years old, 5-foot-2 and 220 pounds. He has white hair and a white beard, and was last seen wearing a blue and gray baseball cap, blue and gray jacket, jeans and tan boots.

Anyone with information about these incidents should call the NYPD's Crime Stoppers Hotline at 800-577-8477, or for Spanish 888-577-4782. The public can also submit their tips at the Crime Stoppers website at NYPDcrimestoppers.com or by texting to 274637, then entering TIP577. All calls are confidential.

BRIEF

Smoking ban in New York and U.S. public housing set to begin

Smoking anywhere inside New York City Housing Authority buildings, and in public housing across the country, will be illegal at some point during the next 18 months.

The new rule, designed to minimize health and fire risks, will impact 400,000 NYCHA residents, according to the advocacy group NYC Smoke-Free. Smoking causes 100,000 fires across the country every year, the Department of Housing and Urban Development said.

"Living free from the dangers of secondhand smoke will no longer be a luxury out of reach for New Yorkers who depend on NYCHA public housing," said NYC Smoke-Free Director Patrick Kwan in a news release.

Residents at the Dyckman Houses told Metro they support the measure.

"Considering the fire over there last week, I'm totally for it,"

23-year resident Yvette Ortega said.

Gordon Turner said he will be happy to say goodbye to the "smell of smoke in the hallways, and the bad mood" it creates.

Smokers' rights advocates contend that the law is a violation of rights.

"You're taking advantage of [the tenants'] position because they can't afford a private house so they can't smoke," Audrey Silk, founder of the New York City Citizens Lobbying Against Smoker Harassment told the New York Post last year.

HUD Secretary Julian Castro said that the penalties will not include eviction. The agency is giving housing authorities up to 18 months to implement the ban.

"We don't see this as a policy that is meant to end in a whole lot of evictions," Castro told reporters in a conference call this week. **AMANDA MIKELBERG**

Engineer in deadly train derailment sues Metro-North for \$10M

The Metro North engineer who fell asleep at the controls in 2013, causing a derailment near Spuyten Duyvil in the Bronx and killing four people, is suing the rail line for \$10 million.

William Rockefeller, whose undiagnosed sleep apnea parallels that of the engineer in September's Hoboken crash, said Metro-North should have equipped his train with automatic brakes and audible warnings, ABC7 reported.

The National Transportation Safety Board determined the 660,000-pound Metro-North train derailed

when it hit a curve going 82 mph in a 30 mph speed limit zone. Four were killed and more than 70 were injured.

"It feels like I want to climb out of my skin," Rockefeller told ABC7. "It's horrifying to me. I just wish it never happened. I'm sorry for it happening. I'm sorry for ev. ... I just see the faces. I can't stop seeing the faces. I'm just haunted by those faces."

No criminal charges were filed against Rockefeller. The combination of undiagnosed sleep apnea and a shift change were found to have contributed to the crash.

KIMBERLY M. AQUILINA



NTSB

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NYC Health Dept.: FDA policy on blood donations by gay and bisexual men must end

The agency says it “continues to re-evaluate the donor deferral policy.”



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Ahead of World AIDS Day, The New York City Health Department called on the Food and Drug Administration to change its policy banning and restricting blood donations by gay and bisexual men.

Some see the FDA policy as discriminatory. The FDA says it is still reviewing requests to change its policy.

Allowing donations by gay and bisexual men would yield an estimated 360,600 potential donors and possibly boost the city's blood supply by 615,300 pints each year, an increase of 2 to 4 percent, according to the Health Department. It could help save the lives of more than 1.8 million people, officials said.

“Replacing the FDA's current ban with a screening process based on science, not stigma, will maintain the safety of the blood supply, increase donations and save lives,” Health Com-



The United Kingdom dropped the ban on blood donation from men who have sex with men and implemented a similar 12-month deferral in 2011. WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

missioner Dr. Mary T. Bassett said. “The new screening process will allow thousands, if not hundreds of thousands, of gay and bisexual men to give the life-saving gift of blood.”

The city Health Department suggests the

FDA replace the ban and deferral policy with behavioral-risk assessments for donors, HIV screening for anyone who has had condomless sex, excluding nondoctor-prescribed syringe users and continuing nucleic acid-

based testing of donated blood.

Men who have sex with men had been banned from donating blood in the United States since 1985, in accordance with FDA regulations. A change made in 2015 allows

gay or bisexual men to donate, provided it had been a year since their last sexual encounter.

Over the summer, the FDA said it was reconsidering lifting the ban entirely on blood donations from men

who have sex with men, CNN reported, and the FDA issued a request for public comment. The website page has since been removed and the deferral period remains.

The FDA said it “will consider the comments received as the agency continues to re-evaluate the donor deferral policy.”

An FDA spokeswoman told Metro via email the “FDA intends to interview blood donors to collect risk factor information associated with testing positive for a transfusion-transmissible infection.”

“FDA also intends to collect information from donors with donations testing negative, as controls. The survey will be conducted under the Transfusion-Transmissible Infections Monitoring System (TTIMS) program.”

The FDA maintains that it will update its blood donor deferral policies as scientific information becomes available.

England, Scotland and Wales lifted the lifetime ban on blood donation from gay and bisexual men in 2011 and implemented a 12-month deferral program.

Donate to Metro's Toy Drive

In keeping with the holiday spirit of giving, Metro is once again launching Metro Magic, our annual toy drive for underprivileged children in New York, Boston and Philadelphia.

This year marks the 7th anniversary of the toy drive, which was renamed in memory of the man who oversaw the project for more than four years, Tony Metcalf, Metro's longest-running editor in chief. Mr. Metcalf passed away in 2013 from colon cancer at the age of 50.

Mr. Metcalf lit up every year as he saw the faces of children

unwrap their holiday gifts. It is our goal to keep that magic alive.

“Tony felt we should use the size and scale of Metro to help other's and he used enormous dedication and force to execute the project and every year make children in need a little happier during the holiday season,” said Metro's Chief Executive Officer Yggres Mortensen.

“I am proud to continue this project in honor of Tony and I hope all our readers, suppliers and members of the Metro team will help to make this yet another great Metro Magic year.”

Metro has created a wish list at the Target website that readers can access by going to Metro.us and clicking on the Tony's Metro Magic story on the homepage.

From there, just choose the toys you wish to donate, pay online using Target's secure payment system, and your gifts, along with your name attached, will be delivered to Metro's offices in each city.

This season, we hope you will remember the children who will spend the holidays in shelters or who may not have gifts to open. Even one small gift can

make a big difference in a child's holiday season. It's good to receive a gift. It's better to give one.



BRIEF

Family: Mother of three dies after paramedics fail to find gunshot wound

A mother of three who was shot Wednesday morning in Brooklyn bled to death when responding paramedics couldn't find her gunshot wound, her family told the New York Daily News.

Salaya Figueroa, 27, was struck in the buttocks as she and her boyfriend ran from gunfire around 12:30 a.m. outside the Louis Pink Houses on Loring Avenue in East New York, her family said.

“They put her on her back, and they kept saying she wasn't shot,” Figueroa's grandmother, Odessa Figueroa, said. “The bullet just damaged other organs, and she bled internally.”

According to the police report, Figueroa was struck



An ambulance with its lights flashing. ISTOCK

in the back and was taken to Brookdale Hospital, where she was later pronounced dead.

No arrests have been made, police said, and the shooting is still under investigation.

NIKKI M. MASCALI

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Facebook developing AI to flag offensive live videos

Facebook Inc. is working on automatically flagging offensive material in live video streams, building on a growing effort to use artificial intelligence to monitor content, said Joaquin Candela, the company's director of applied machine learning.

The social media company has historically relied mostly on users to report offensive posts, which are then checked by Facebook employees against company "community standards." Decisions on especially thorny content issues that might require policy changes are made by top executives at the company.

Candela told reporters that Facebook increasingly was using artificial intelligence to find offensive material. It is "an algorithm that detects nudity, violence or any of the things that are not according to our policies," he said.

The company already had been working on using automation to flag extremist video content, as Reuters reported in June.

Now the automated system also is being tested on Facebook Live, the streaming video service for users to broadcast live video.

Using artificial intelligence to flag live video is still at the research stage, and has two challenges, Candela said. "One, your computer vision algorithm has to



Facebook has been embroiled in a number of content moderation controversies this year. GETTY IMAGES

be fast, and I think we can push there, and the other one is you need to prioritize things in the right way so that a human looks at it, an expert who understands our policies, and takes it down."

Facebook said it also uses automation to process the tens of millions of reports it gets each week, to recognize duplicate reports and route the flagged content to reviewers with the appropriate subject matter expertise.

Chief Executive Officer Mark Zuckerberg in November said Facebook would turn to automation as part of a plan to identify fake news. Ahead of the Nov. 8 election, Facebook users saw fake news reports erroneously alleging that Pope Francis endorsed Donald Trump

and that a federal agent who had been investigating Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton was found dead.

However, determining whether a particular comment is hateful or bullying, for example, requires context, the company said.

Yann LeCun, Facebook's director of AI research, declined to comment on using AI to detect fake news, but said in general news feed improvements provoked questions of trade-offs between filtering and censorship, freedom of expressions and decency and truthfulness.

"These are questions that go way beyond whether we can develop AI," said LeCun. "Trade-offs that I'm not well-placed to determine."

REUTERS

BRIEF

Website ranks New York as America's best sports city

Well, it's confirmed, New York is No. 1.

With teams like the Yankees, Mets, Rangers, Giants and Jets (to name a few), New Yorkers didn't really need to be told they're top dog, but they'll take the recognition in a recent study ranking the best sports cities in America conducted by WalletHub, a personal finance website.

The report ranked 423 cities based on more than 18 metrics including team performance, stadium accessibility, ticket prices,

fan friendliness and fan engagement. The report looked at the data for the sports of baseball, football, basketball, hockey and soccer.

New York City was ranked first in baseball, No. 4 in hockey, No. 9 for baseball, No. 8 for football and No. 12 for basketball.

New York beat out cities like Boston, Pittsburgh and Los Angeles to earn the crown.

Twenty-four other New York cities made the list, including Albany, Syracuse, Schenectady, Binghamton and Buffalo.

ERIN TIERNAN

Top 10 sports cities

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6. Philadelphia
7. Washington
8. Detroit
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Starbucks CEO steps down to focus on high-end coffee, shares dip

Starbucks signaled the change in July, saying that Schultz was moving away from day-to-day operations to focus on the development of high-end stores and long-term growth.

Starbucks Corp. on Thursday said Howard Schultz will step down as chief executive to focus on its high-end coffee shops as Chief Operating Officer Kevin Johnson takes over as CEO.

Starbucks signaled the change in July, saying that Schultz was moving away from day-to-day operations to focus on the development of high-end stores and long-term growth.

The announcement on Thursday comes as investors worry that growth at the company is cooling from its red-hot levels. Starbucks shares were down 3.9 percent at \$56.25 in after-market trading on Thursday.

Schultz has been the shareholders' darling at the Seattle-based company. When he returned in 2008 for his second stint as CEO, the stock was trading below \$10. Late last year it hit an all-time high above \$60.

Johnson is a former



Howard Schultz GETTY IMAGES

technology executive who became president and chief operating officer at Starbucks in March 2015. He will take over as CEO of the company on April 3, 2017, Starbucks said in a statement.

Johnson has been on the Starbucks board since 2009 but most of his career was in the technology industry.

"Not having retail experience could be a problem over time," said Howard Penney, an analyst at Hedgeye Risk Management.

On a conference after the announcement, analysts pressed the company on timing and whether, with Schultz stepping aside, senior management still had the "merchant" gene.

"I'm not leaving the company and I'm here every day," said Schultz,

adding that he will be focused on building a new franchise within Starbucks.

Store traffic at established stores fell in the last quarter, which Johnson has attributed to a change in the company's loyalty program, and Starbucks forecast a mid-single-digit rise in 2017 same-store sales.

The move increases the focus of the well-regarded Schultz on Starbucks establishing itself at the high end of coffee shops.

"Howard Schultz ... will shift his focus to innovation, design and development of Starbucks Reserve Roasteries around the world, expansion of the Starbucks Reserve retail store format and the company's social impact initiatives," the company said.

REUTERS

HEALTHY LIFESTYLE

The link between sugar consumption and increased body fat has long been known. Too much sugar in the diet promotes more insulin, the fat storing hormone, and thus more body fat.

THE SLIMMING EFFECT OF STABLE BLOOD SUGAR LEVELS

Recently an Italian study of a sugar-blocking supplement showed significant weight loss results.¹ The supplement, called Zuccarin™, produced on average 20 pounds of weight loss, in the 90 day study.



The subjects lost 10% of their body weight and lost 3 times the weight of the control group, who were also on a 1300 calorie controlled diet, but not taking the Zuccarin supplement. In addition, the subjects also experienced healthier blood sugar levels after using Zuccarin.

The explanation for the weight loss is that Zuccarin uses mulberry leaf extract and chromium to promote healthy blood sugar levels. Mulberry leaf has shown to reduce the absorption of sugars in the foods we eat. When these sugars are undigested, our blood sugar stabilizes and, according to experts, weight loss can occur.

1- "White Mulberry Supplement as Adjuvant Treatment of Obesity", Journal of Biological Regulators and Homeostatics Agents., Vol 28, no.1, 2014.

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Elenor C. Miami, FL.



Zuccarin™ from New Nordic is the no.1 selling mulberry leaf supplement in the world.



BRIEF

A year after San Bernardino attack, investigators still seek answers

One year after two Islamic militants shot dead 14 people in a massacre in Southern California, FBI investigators are still seeking to answer key questions such as the location of the married couple's computer hard drive and whether anyone helped them, an official said.

Syed Rizwan Farook, 28, and his wife, Tashfeen Malik, 29, opened fire on Dec. 2 during a party and training session for San Bernardino County employees,

who were co-workers of Farook, injuring 22 people in addition to the 14 killed.

It was one of the deadliest attacks by militants in the United States since the Sept. 11, 2001, hijacked plane attacks.

Authorities have said that U.S.-born Farook and Malik, a native of Pakistan who lived most of her life in Saudi Arabia, were inspired by Islamic extremism. The couple, who were parents of a 6-month-old daughter, both died in a shootout with police four hours after the massacre.

The Federal Bureau of

Investigation is still seeking to determine if anyone assisted the couple, such as in financing the attack or helping to plan for it, FBI spokeswoman Laura Eimiller said.

"While we have not charged anyone with providing support to Farook and Malik, we certainly will continue to investigate to determine if they were supported in any way," she said in a telephone interview.

To that end, the FBI is still hoping to find the hard drive from the couple's computer, Eimiller said. REUTERS

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As Trump touts Indiana jobs deal, US factory work seeps overseas



President-elect Donald Trump speaks to workers at Carrier air conditioning and heating on Thursday in Indianapolis, Indiana. GETTY IMAGES

In Indiana alone, employers are eliminating at least 3,660 jobs because they are shifting work to other countries, according to a Reuters analysis of Labor Department filings.

President-elect Donald Trump goes to Indianapolis on Thursday to celebrate a deal that will keep 1,000 factory jobs there, but employers elsewhere in Indiana are laying off five times that many workers because of foreign competition.

The decision by United Technologies Corp's Carrier unit to keep half of the 2,100 Indiana jobs it was to shift to Mexico has allowed Trump to claim credit after he held rallies during his populist campaign promising to revive the industrial base of the United States.

But the author of "The Art of the Deal" will have a lot more dealmaking to do if he wants to stop the steady erosion of manufacturing jobs from the country due to automation and lower costs abroad.

Some 960 workers em-

ployed by five companies in Indiana are losing their jobs because their U.S. employers are not able to compete with cheaper imported goods, filings show.

Some of those facing job cuts said they did not expect Trump to intervene on their behalf, but they will expect him to take broader steps to protect factory work.

"If in four years it's the same old crap that's going on we'll give another candidate a shot," said Michael Mobley, whose employer, Aurora Casket, eliminated 35 jobs in September and plans to cut another 35 jobs next year as it shifts work to Mexico from Aurora, Indiana.

As elsewhere in the United States, factory work in Indiana has lagged as the broader economy has recovered from the 2008-2009 recession. Manufacturing employment is down 7.4 percent from January 2007 levels even as total employment in the state has risen 3 percent since then, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Nationwide, manufacturing employment is down 12.5 percent since 2007, according to the bureau.

"If in four years it's the same old crap that's going on we'll give another candidate a shot." Mobley

Carrier faced harsh scrutiny after it announced in February that it was eliminating 1,400 jobs at an Indianapolis plant that makes heating and air conditioning units, and another 700 jobs at a United Technologies factory in Huntington, Indiana.

On the campaign trail, Trump turned the Carrier layoffs into a symbol of working-class frustration, promising that he would rebuild a manufacturing base that has been eroded over the past three decades.

Trump and his vice president-elect, Indiana Governor Mike Pence, worked out an agreement with United Technologies CEO Gregory Hayes that gives the company financial incentives from the state, along with a promise to improve the U.S. business climate.

REUTERS

Spike in Yellowstone grizzly deaths tied to conflicts with humans



A grizzly bear mother and her cub in Yellowstone National Park. GETTY IMAGES

The uptick in bear deaths comes as the Obama administration says the population of roughly 690 bears in and around Yellowstone has come back from the brink of extinction and should be stripped of Endangered Species Act protections.

Wildlife managers at Yellowstone National Park are reporting an unusually high number of grizzly bear deaths, 55, linked to humans this year in a trend believed tied to a growing number of the bruins harming livestock or challenging hunters over freshly killed game.

The plan, proposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service earlier this year, opens the way for hunting in Wyoming, Montana and Idaho, the Northern Rocky Mountain states that border the park.

The measure is strongly opposed by conservationists and Native American tribes but

"The mortalities keep escalating and the population keeps dropping. We don't think now is the time to remove Endangered Species Act protections; we need more time to study these trends."

Sierra Club's Bonnie Rice

supported by sportsmen and ranchers who claim the number of conflicts will diminish by targeting bears that bounce hunters off freshly shot game or which harm livestock.

The carcasses of at least 55 Yellowstone area bears have been found so far this year, with most dying from human-related activities, according to figures compiled by the U.S. Geological Survey. Nearly half the grizzlies were killed by government bear managers for preying on cattle, sheep and the like.

Wildlife advocates fear that the final tally for 2016 will exceed the 61 bears known or believed to have died in the Yellowstone area last year, a high in the de-

cadecades since such mortalities have been tracked.

That compares to 28 grizzlies known or likely dead in 2014 and 29 in 2013, according to government records.

Gregg Losinski, member of a federal and state team that oversees Yellowstone grizzlies, said some bears running into conflicts are seeking to expand their range into areas already occupied by humans or other grizzlies.

"As far as we're concerned, the population is maxed out based on the available habitat and we're seeing more and more deaths because of this density," he said.

Conservationists say they are alarmed by the number of Yellowstone area bears that have died in 2016. REUTERS



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New groove of 'Hamilton'

Some of the music world's biggest stars dropped by Broadway to drop the "Hamilton Mixtape."



T. MICHELLE MURPHY
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It's not an unusual sight to see hundreds of fans packing the sidewalk outside the Richard Rodgers Theatre, home to "Hamilton." But it was especially busy on Thursday, and these fans weren't crowded around the stage door.

Lining 46th Street past Eighth Avenue, they were among the lucky fans who heard the announcement late Wednesday night: The new "Hamilton Mixtape" album — which brings together some of the biggest names in the music business spanning genres from rap to indie rock to cover the musical's best-selling soundtrack — was having a preview concert with 1,300 free seats to fill.

Though no one knew what to expect from the half-hour presentation when the lucky few filed inside, many of whom had probably never made it into the room where it happens before given high ticket prices and the fact that the show's been sold out for years. DJs !llmind and J.Period, who also produced the album, played a set (audience members



Andra Day brought the house to its feet with "Burn." PROVIDED

danced in their seats) before the show began.

"The goal was to take the emotion of the original tracks and bump them up in terms of intensity," !llmind tells us about producing four tracks for the album. "That's kind of what I specialize in, and for each one of these, it was about studying the originals, really understanding the message of the original songs, and then the mood in the music, and then kind of doing my best to kick those up a notch without overpowering the vocalists."

J.Period saw the challenge of producing the album as taking the music out of the context of Broadway. Though different in many ways, the two albums still have something in common. "On Broadway, it's all about the narrative; on the mixtape, you're combining narrative with

"The goal was to take the emotion of the original tracks and bump them up in terms of intensity."

!llmind

flow. People are asking why did you put the songs in this order: This is what it's supposed to be. You pop it in, you press play, and you experience the whole thing as one entity."

When the lights finally went down, the familiar chords for a remixed "My Shot" filled the room, performed by rapper Joell Ortiz and Black Thought of The

Roots. "I wanted to make sure I expressed how important it is to be American, to express how you feel and take the credit," Ortiz tells us of the rap he wrote for the song, Alexander Hamilton's anthem. "'Debt: Who do you owe most? You.' In this verse, [I] let people know they can take anything into their own hands."

"I come from the projects in Brooklyn where people don't believe that. And it's wrong, 'cause some of the smartest people I know, some of the most creative people I know, are in those poverty-stricken projects."

The concert also included performances by Regina Spektor, whose soulful "Dear Theodosia" was the first song recorded for the "Mixtape," and Andra Day's crackling and stylistically branded "Burn" that brought the

house to its feet for a standing ovation.

Finally, Ja Rule and Ashanti were reunited for an almost cheeky rendition of "Helpless." Like most of the "Mixtape" contributors, Ja Rule didn't stick completely to the script. Just as Miranda added references from his favorite musicals and rappers to the soundtrack, Ja Rule made the song his own in some small ways.

"I felt that it had to have little changes to make it me, and to make it about me and Ashanti, and to give it a fun feel," he says. "Like, 'We'll get a little place in Queens and we'll figure it out.' Because I'm from Queens."

The "Hamilton Mixtape" is available now digitally and as a CD or cassette (at Miranda's insistence). A vinyl edition is coming soon.

BRIEF

'Cursed Child' is (probably) coming to Broadway

The producers of "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" and the main Muggle herself, J.K. Rowling, are in "advanced discussions" to bring the hit show to Broadway.

Its home across the pond would be the Lyric Theatre, where Cirque du Soleil's "Paramour" is currently playing through April 16, 2017. Beginning in May, the theater will close for a multimillion-dollar renovation and reopen in Spring 2018 with the "Harry Potter" sequel, Ambassador Theatre Group announced Thursday night.

The remodeling will actually shrink the auditorium from 1,900 to 1,500 seats and change the shape of the stage, all to accommodate the show's specifications to create "a bespoke home that will be intimate enough for a drama, yet big enough for us to deliver on our commitment to provide audiences with access to low priced tickets throughout the auditorium," the producers said in a statement.

That will certainly take some magic, given that Harry Potter fandom has only grown since it "officially" ended with projects like Pottermore, "Cursed Child" and the recent "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them" prequel film, which was also written by Rowling.

The lobby will also be transformed "to optimize the atmosphere and audience experience," say the producers. Is that wizarding PR speak for "photo ops"? We'll find out in 2018. EVA KIS



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THE DEMOCRATS' DARK PATH

Democrats are a lot of things these days: depressed, confused, anxious, stunned and disoriented to name a few. But mainly they are furious; apoplectic that Donald Trump turned reliably blue states red, that the Electoral College has more weight than the popular vote and that even if we see recounts in a state or three, Trump is still almost certainly taking the oath in January.

All that considered, I understand why they are angry. But at Republicans? It seems to me Democrats should be mad at other Democrats; indeed, madder now than they were right after the election. Because as the big name Dems here in D.C. perform their postmortem on the vote, do you know what they are changing to get better results in the future? Almost nothing.

For a couple weeks, it looked like younger Dems with new ideas about the party's future might get some traction. But now, with Nancy Pelosi cruising to re-election as head of the House Dems, it appears the same leadership that pushed relentlessly for Hillary Clinton will remain firmly in charge. This is kind of like the captain and crew of the Titanic being pulled from the icy waters only to immediately be chosen by the rest of the survivors to assume command of the rescue ship.

Remember, old guard Dems marginalized Bernie Sanders and then alienated many of his followers instead of blazing a path for them to get behind their

TOM FOREMAN

Opinion

CNN's Tom Foreman is the author of the book "My Year of Running Dangerously." @tomforemancnn



hand-picked candidate. They dismissed warnings about Clinton's poor ratings for likeability and trustworthiness. And they sat blissfully by while working class voters in state after state drifted away from the party of their parents ... dismissing those very people as bigots, xenophobes and "deplorables."

Of course these pillars of the party can lay claim to some legislative gains and some big fund raising. But on their watch, both houses of Congress, more governorships, more state legislatures and now the White House all wound up in Republican hands. So trashing Trump may be satisfying, but if Democrats don't seriously call their own leaders on the carpet now, they'll likely have little chance of holding Republicans accountable when it really matters.

BRIEF

Mattis reported named for Pentagon but Trump team denies

President-elect Donald Trump will nominate retired General James Mattis to lead the Pentagon, two media outlets reported on Thursday, but a Trump spokesman said no decision had been made.

The Washington Post said Trump had chosen Mattis and that an announcement was likely to be made early next week.

CNN also reported that Trump had settled on Mattis. Reuters could not immediately confirm the planned nomination.

Trump spokesman Jason Miller said on Twitter that "no decision has been made yet with regard to Secretary of Defense."

Mattis is a revered figure in the Marine Corps, known for his tough talk, distrust of Iran and battlefield experience in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The choice of a seasoned military strategist would be another indication that Trump, a Republican, intends to steer U.S. foreign policy away from Democratic President Barack Obama's increased reliance on U.S. allies to fight Islamist militants and to help deter Russian and Chinese aggression in Europe and Asia.

While the nomination of the 66-year-old Mattis would likely be popular among U.S. forces, many of whom know him by

his colorful nickname "Mad Dog," it would have to clear a bureaucratic hurdle.

Because he retired only in 2013, Mattis would need the U.S. Congress to waive a requirement that a defense secretary be a civilian for at least seven years before taking the top job at the Pentagon. His impressive combat record, however, may deter some Senate Democrats from trying to block his nomination. **REUTERS**

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Clinton steps down a staircase after making a concession speech. GETTY IMAGES

THE FUN STARTS HERE

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Winter movie preview: More than just 'Star Wars'

Behold, Oscar nominee Felicity Jones goes from "The Theory of Everything" to the star of another little movie that could, "Rogue One: A Star Wars Story." **LUCAS FILM**

We are a divided nation. We're, of course, not talking about the election; we're talking about what movies we each like to see. Thankfully, it's not just comic book movies and cartoons about talking/farting animals. The next few months will truly, and perhaps shockingly, have something for everyone.

MATT PRIGGE

FOR LOVERS OF ENDLESS FRANCHISES



Michael Fassbender finally gets his big video game movie with "Assassin's Creed." **KERRY BROWN**

There's really only one big franchise this season, and it's a doozy: "Star Wars." No, we're not talking about the breathlessly, maniacally anticipated "Episode 8," which won't arrive till next December. It's "**Rogue One**" (Dec. 16), modestly subtitled as merely "A Star Wars Story." A side tale/prequel to the events of the first "Star Wars," it follows a rag-tag, Force-free group of rebels, led by Felicity Jones' orphaned rascalion, who steal the plans

for the still-being-constructed first Death Star. Better yet, from the looks of it, it's not merely a slavish recreation of the original trilogy. It looks like its own new thing.

Actually, we tell a lie: There is a new film that wants to at least spurn a franchise. That would be "**Assassin's Creed**" (Dec. 21), which attempts to turn a big time video game into the next cinematic cash cow. We can't make heads or tails of the story: Michael

Fassbender plays an armed hunter during the Spanish Inquisition — but he's really a guy from the future, sent back into the body of an ancestor, for some reason. Whatever: It's a chance to see Fassbender and Marion Cotillard reunite after last year's brooding "Macbeth" (also directed by Justin Kurzel, as it happens). And any movie with Jeremy Irons, Brendan Gleeson and Charlotte Rampling can't be another stupid video game movie, right?

FOR THOSE WHO LIKE ACTUAL ORIGINAL IDEAS

Do you enjoy movies not based on already existing sources or attached to an ongoing franchise? Because Hollywood still makes those, sometimes! "**La La Land**" (Dec. 9, limited; Dec. 16 wide) may not be entirely original; it's simply a throwback to the old time musical. But it's one of the few things this season that will make you happy — before it makes you sad. Ryan Gosling and Emma Stone play struggling Los Angelenos who find love and fancy footwork.

Of course, in Hollywood, original ideas aren't always so original. Technically "**Office Christmas Party**" (Dec. 9) counts as something we've technically never seen before, in that no one's made an all-star comedy about a raucous, drug-fueled office holiday party. So does "**Collateral Beauty**" (Dec. 16) which sort



Emma Stone and Ryan Gosling bust a move in "La La Land." **DALE ROBINETTE**

of sounds like "A Christmas Carol," only weirder: A depressed Will Smith finds himself visited by the spiritual embodiments of love (Keira Knightley), time (Jacob Latimore) and death (Helen Mirren). "**Why Him?**" (Dec.

23) is simply a mismatched duo comedy with Bryan Cranston and James Franco. And "**Sing**" (Dec. 21), about singing animals, sounds like "Happy Feet" but with more than penguins.

Sometimes an original film, like "Gravity," will birth a slew of copycats. And so we have "**Passengers**" (Dec. 21), which ups the stranded space cadets to two: Jennifer Lawrence and Chris Pratt are accidentally awakened on board a ship sometime well before their destination's been reached. Even a truly rare film, like the children's fantasy-horror-drama "**A Monster Calls**" (Dec. 23) — about a young boy with a dying mom (Felicity Jones again) visited by a story-telling colossus — is based on a book.



J-Law and ... C-Pratt (we guess?) star in "Passengers." **COLUMBIA PICTURES**

FOR THOSE WHO LIKE THINGS ALL-CAPS SERIOUS



Janelle Monáe, Taraji P. Henson and Octavia Spencer play brilliant NASA employees in "Hidden Figures." KERRY BROWN

Hollywood doesn't really make big, long, serious adult dramas anymore — unless Martin Scorsese is doing the asking. "Silence" (Dec. 23) finds a group of Jesuit priests (including Andrew Garfield and Liam Neeson) undergoing intense torture on their trip to spread the Gospel to anti-Christian 17th century Japan. It will be the second film, after "Hacksaw Ridge," that combines Garfield and unimaginable suffering. But most of all, it's a Martin Scorsese picture, based on a great novel that has already made into a great 1971 film (now streaming on Filmstruck, as it happens).

Does this sound like Oscar talk? Because 'tis the season for that, too! Another heavy hitter is "Fences" (Dec. 28), in which Denzel Washington

directs himself and Viola Davis as the fractured couple of August Wilson's prized 1983 play. (Both actors won Tonys for their 2010 Broadway production.) We're assuming "Patriots Day" (Dec. 21, limited release) is an Oscar contender, too, since it's about the 2013 Boston Marathon bombing — even though it's the slightly trashier kind of dramas made by Mark Wahlberg and director Peter Berg ("Lone Survivor," "Deepwater Horizon").

There's precious little Oscar talk about "Live by Night" (Dec. 25), which is odd since it's Ben Affleck's first directorial bid since Best Picture winner "Argo." Based on a Dennis Lehaine novel, it's a neo-noir that watches as Affleck's anti-hero goes from police captain's son to bootleg-

ger to gangster.

Meanwhile, we're not sure if "Hidden Figures" (Dec. 28) qualifies as "all-caps serious." The tale of three African-American women (Taraji P. Henson, Octavia Spencer and Janelle Monáe) who became instrumental in the 1960s space race, it's more a classic feel-good weepie — even more so now that half the country voted for you-know-who. Speaking of '60s race relations, one of the only Oscar races we care about is whether "I Am Not Your Negro" (Dec. 9) gets a nom for Best Documentary, being that it's a look at the always relevant (especially now) writer James Baldwin, who was speaking eloquently then about some of the same things Black Lives Matter members talk about now.



Remember when Liam Neeson didn't do action movies? He's back to dramas in Martin Scorsese's "Silence." KERRY BROWN

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FOR THOSE WHO PREFER THE ART HOUSE

Erudite viewers don't often go to the art house to laugh. But laugh they will at "Toni Erdmann" (Dec. 28), even though it's a three-hour comedy from Germany, not exactly the birthplace of comedy. The plot is ready-made for an Adam Sandler remake: A workaholic is none too happy when her eccentric father crashes her life, pretending to be a wealthy ambassador (or life coach, or businessman, depending who's asking), complete with a hilarious combo of bad wig and worse fake teeth. You'll laugh, you'll cry (a bit) and you might just leave thinking this silly film is a serious masterpiece.

There are plenty of name directors, too. Jim Jarmusch is back with "Paterson" (Dec. 28), a slow, leisurely and rich look at a week in the life of a poet/bus driver (Adam Driver, almost scarily chill). Mike Mills ("Beginners") hangs with Annette Bening, Elle Fanning and Greta

Gerwig in 1970s California in "20th Century Women" (Dec. 28). "I, Daniel Blake" (Dec. 23) finds English social realist Ken Loach ("The Wind That Shakes the Barley") back to observing the plights of the working class. Pedro Almodovar has another red-hot melodrama-mystery with "Julietta" (Dec. 21).

You might not know the name of Chilean director Pablo Larraín, but maybe you will now. Already a great, thanks to the likes of like his Pinochet-era dramedy "No," the filmmaker has two renegade biopics. First, there's "Jackie" (Dec. 2), which features Natalie Portman's Oscar-talk of a turn as Mrs. Kennedy, seen in the immediate aftermath of the JFK assassination. And on Dec. 16 we get "Neruda," which isn't a look at the life of poet Pablo Neruda but about the time he went underground and was hunted down by a dogged government agent (Gael García Bernal).



Will Natalie Portman win her second Oscar for "Jackie," in which she plays Mrs. Kennedy post-JFK assassination? It turns out nobody knows for sure. FOX SEARCHLIGHT

OR THOSE NOT DREADING THE JANUARY/FEBRUARY DUMPING GROUNDS



We're so happy Keanu Reeves' superassassin got himself another dog in the hotly anticipated "John Wick: Chapter 2" NICO TAVERNISE

The early months of a year are for botched New Year's resolutions — and, of course, for terrible movies that studios try to dump so they never have to think about them again. So get ready for a new "Underworld" (Jan. 6), a new "Resident Evil" (Jan. 27), a revival of the "Amityville Horror" (Jan. 6) and "Monster Trucks" (Jan. 13), which is now, apparently, a movie (with Amy Ryan). There's also something called "A Dog's Purpose" (Jan. 27), about a dog that keeps getting reincarnated — as more dogs.

In brighter news, a second "Fifty Shades" (Feb. 10) movie means more of Dakota Johnson's quietly funny work, and hopefully she won't constantly say "Crap!" in this one either. After deferring to Ice Cube for the 2005 sequel, Vin Diesel

returns for "xXx: Return of Xander Cage" (Jan. 20), though we can't tell if his presence means the movie will be good or if his career is slipping again. We kind of liked M. Night Shyamalan's last movie — the found footage romp "The Visit" — so maybe "Split" (Jan. 20) will be fine, especially since it stars 23 different iterations of James McAvoy.

Honestly, though, the movie we're most excited for — maybe, if you twist our arm, more than any other film mentioned in this guide — is "John Wick: Chapter 2" (Feb. 10). Keanu Reeves' superassassin is back, this time with another dog, and it would just be cruel if it was as much of a disappointment as the second "Jack Reacher." Still, even if it is, we'll always have "Rock Dog" (Feb. 24).

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The beautiful and chilling art-horror film "The Eyes of My Mother" stars Kika Magalhaes as one seriously screwed-up farm girl. **MAGNOLIA PICTURES**

"The Eyes of My Mother"

Director: Nicolas Pesce
Stars: Kika Magalhaes, Olivia Bond
Rating: R

● ● ● ● ●

It's a shock, in "The Eyes of My Mother," when you hear someone speak English. This art-horror freak-out is American, but it looks like the latest chilling import from Eastern Europe. The images are crisp black-and-white. Scenes are banged out in one carefully

framed, unmoving long take. And though it involves grisly murders and nonelective surgery, there's no gore in sight — it's all kept off-screen or elided by cuts. When we briefly visit a middle-of-nowhere, very American dive bar, it's like we've discovered what we thought was an alien planet was Earth all along.

First-time director Nicolas Pesce wants to keep you always off-balance, right down to its years-spanning story, which details the strange backstory of a very screwed-up serial killer. As a kid (played by Olivia Bond), our

farm girl hero, Francisca, watches as her mother (Diana Agostini) is murdered by a twitching stranger (Will Brill). Her crotchety dad (Paul Nazek) avenges her death, but not by killing her assailant: He chains him up in the barn and cancels his tongue and eyes. He thus becomes the young, bored, increasingly twisted girl's new friend. She keeps him till she's a young adult (now Kika Magalhaes), when she decides she should collect more "friends."

Even for an episodic movie, "The Eyes of My Mother" really feels like a clumsy collection of ideas, clumsily tied together. But its images, and particularly sounds, might be enough. The eerie sound design works overtime to activate the brain, forcing viewers to imagine far worse than they're seeing. It's more about moments than the big picture. But what moments — moments that will haunt your dreams, no matter where they came from. **MATT PRIGGE**

"McCabe & Mrs. Miller"

Director: Pablo Larraín
Stars: Warren Beatty, Julie Christie
Rating: R

● ● ● ● ●

The reissue of "McCabe & Mrs. Miller" arrives on the heels of two tragedies — one considerably worse than the other, but both gutting. The lesser evil is the utter and undeserved failure of "Rules Don't Apply," Warren Beatty's first film as an actor in 15 years and 19 as a director. The calamity that really hurts is the passing of Leonard Cohen. Watching Robert Altman's 1971 career peak is truly bittersweet: It contains one of Beatty's best screen turns and three Cohen songs from 1967 — this, despite being a Western, even a "revisionist" one, set in 1902.

It's difficult putting into words why Cohen goes so well with a movie set decades before.

And yet most of the movie's power lies beyond words. It's in the gauzy, faded images containing beauty and ugliness. It's in the bottomless and indescribable sadness of the final minutes.

There's a plot buried in here, too. Beatty's John McCabe — a gambler riding high on a (probably bull) story about him killing a man — saunters into a never-was town in the Pacific Northwest and opens a brothel. It's a rousing success — at least after this stubborn yet insecure loner agrees to a partner-in-crime: Christie's

prostitute-turned-madam Mrs. Miller, who points out all the holes in a plan that has, till then, been little more than big talk. (Insert exhausted connection to current leader-elect here.)

Even when this independently owned goldmine attracts corporate goons, Altman's in no rush to stir up tension. He'd rather hang with his characters in this vivid and often grotesque world. It takes the belated arrival of actual violence to ruin everything. Even then the film, like its heroes, puts up a good fight. **MP**



Julie Christie and Warren Beatty's star in Robert Altman's 1971 revisionist Western "McCabe & Mrs. Miller," playing at Film Forum, 209 W. Houston St., through Dec. 6. **FILM FORUM, WARNER BROS.**

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Finally a Breitbart article you can laugh at

Sketch comedy act Blogologues performs the internet live.



KATE MOONEY
@yatinBrooklyn
letters@metro.us

For NYC-based comedians Jen Jamula and Allison Goldberg, anything they read online is fodder for Blogologues, their live sketch comedy show in which they perform the internet.

Since 2011, the two friends and collaborators, who met studying theater as Yale undergrads, have acted out, sung and danced to word-for-word reenactments of Craigslist missed connections, Tinder profiles and Yelp reviews. Their productions have spanned the viral Twitter story about a woman's pooping fiasco on a date (which they performed as a mini-opera) to the 2010 Hairpin article "The 'Winter Boy-



Allison Goldberg, left, and Jen Jamula, right, cohost the Blogologues, a live sketch comedy show in which they re-enact things they've read online. LINDSAY MAY COOK

friend," skewering the infamous Marie Claire piece, "Should you lock in a 'winter boyfriend?'"

Once a month, the duo performs Blogologues at the People's Improv Theater in Chelsea, combining a mix of audience favorites plus

new sketches, often tied to the news cycle. The week before Election Day, the two acted out trending Twitter topics like #TrumpBookReport and #NastyWoman. For the latter, they set the best nasty woman tweets to Prince prote-

ges Vanity 6's song "Nasty Girl" with a full song and dance routine. They wore pantsuits.

"We wore 'I'm with her' shirts," remembers Jamula. "The whole thing was so pro-Hillary." They say it's too sad to perform now.

Since Nov. 9, their acts have taken on more political heft, because so much of what's on the internet can no longer be read as benign. At the show this Friday, they're debuting a brand new sketch — which you can file under dark comedy — based on the Breitbart article, "Birth control makes women unattractive and crazy."

"[The article] reads

like a joke, but it isn't a joke," says Goldberg.

"The alt-right is a group we have known about for years because we spend a lot of time on the deep dark depths of the internet," she explains. "We've seen them on 4Chan, Reddit, all the men's rights sites, saying really hateful things." With former Breitbart chairman Steve Bannon named chief strategist and senior advisor to Trump, "now [the alt-right] is empowered and they're out."

Jamula and Goldberg will perform the article dressed in Catholic school girl uniforms, "doing a cross between a purity ceremony and so-

rority hazing," bringing up women on stage to convince them to "let go of their evil birth control ways."

"The world we lived in changed drastically on Nov. 9," says Goldberg. "Comedy is a really interesting tool to get people to think, while laughing. If you just hit people over the head with sad, horrible news, eventually they don't want to hear it anymore."

That certainly rings true for anyone equal parts fatigued and disturbed by what they find in their daily social media feeds.

At Friday's show, the Breitbart piece will be interspersed with lighter acts, like their version of "The 12 Days of Christmas" about absurd Amazon or Etsy gifts "my true love [sent] to me." They'll perform online reviews of the items, like a gallon of whole milk for sale on Amazon someone wrote a parody review of that "sounds like Blanche DuBois talking about family bringing home the milk," says Jamula. Another gem will be an Amazon review of a UFO detector — in the voice of a trash-talking alien.

At the show's close, they'll include a call to action for the audience to donate to the likes of Planned Parenthood and ACLU.

If you go

Friday, Dec. 2, 8 p.m.
The People's Improv Theater
123 E. 24th St.
\$15, blogologues.org

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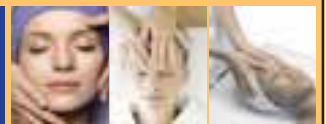
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Finally...New Hope For Overactive Bladders!

New Double-Blind Clinical Study Shows UriVarx Can Reduce Urgency, Leakage and Incontinence... It Can Even Reduce Nighttime Trips To The Bathroom

NEW YORK, NY – Frequent, uncontrollable urination is no laughing matter. Add it to all of the other stresses in life and it can be nothing short of a nightmare. Even worse, it's a nightmare you can't wake up from. That helpless feeling of your bladder bursting and the worry of not making it to the bathroom on-time can be absolutely terrifying.

The loss of dignity and the fear of embarrassment make it one of the most difficult health problems, you'll ever deal with.

But you're not alone with your bladder issues. According to The National Institute of Health, as many as 33 million Americans are affected by bladder control problems, exactly like those described above.

Bladder Problems... The One Secret You'll Never Tell

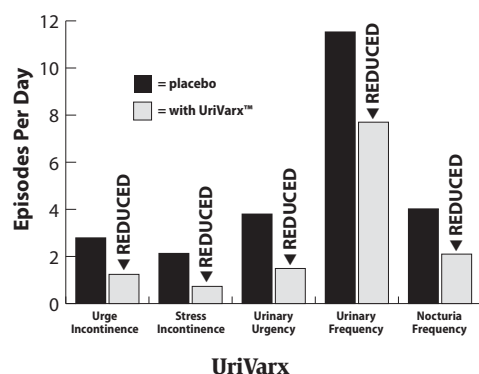
According to Dr. Tracey Seipel, a long-time clinician and one of the world's leading experts in the natural treatment of bladder control issues, "Most people who have overactive bladders choose to keep their problems a secret."

In fact, she went on to say, "They don't even tell their spouse or families about it. It affects their lives in every way, influencing where they go, and even what they will wear in case they have an accident."

And forget about making a fashion statement, according to Dr. Seipel, "Black is the color of choice, as it can hide evidence of public accidents."

But bladder control issues may now be a thing of the past. That's because a 100% natural, drug-free aid developed by Dr. Seipel and her team is now available after a landmark double-blind, randomized, placebo-controlled clinical study has proven its effectiveness in 150 individuals.

The proprietary formulation called UriVarx was clinically tested and proven to reduce incontinence, stress incontinence, urgency, frequency and nocturia (having to go at night). Some participants even reported complete reversal of their nocturia within 2 weeks!



Dr. Seipel's formula has completely changed the life of Brandy W., a 45 year-old mother of three from Brisbane, CA.

Brandy stated, "I had a high bladder frequency as a child, but my frequency really worsened after the birth of my first child."

After a friend told her about UriVarx, Brandy decided to give it a try. "After 2 weeks, I already noticed changes" said Brandy.

She went on to say, "I was finding that although I felt I needed to urinate, I wasn't as desperate to run to the toilet. Now, when I get up in the morning, I'm able to make the coffee and even have a cup before needing to go, which is a great improvement!"

How Does It Work?

"UriVarx helps support bladder health by revitalizing bladder tone and function and by helping support kidney health", says Dr. Seipel.

"The active ingredients promote normal urinary frequency and they reduce urgency, nocturia and those embarrassing accidents", adds Dr. Seipel.

"The compound invigorates the tone of the bladder wall, assisting a healthy level of firmness by enhancing the bladder's muscular elasticity. This reduces the frequent urge to urinate", Dr. Seipel explains.

Positive and Strong Clinical Studies

This natural drug-free blend recently shocked the medical community with its overwhelmingly positive results in a new published clinical study.

Study participants were randomized and assigned to either a treatment group or a placebo group at two separate facilities. Both groups were monitored for a variety of bladder symptoms at week two, four and eight during the 2-month study.

At the end of the study, those receiving UriVarx showed significant improvements in all symptoms, including day frequency, night frequency and urgency. And what was even more impressive were the quality of life improvements the test subjects experienced. A full 84% of those taking UriVarx said "Yes!" to the question..."Have you had any benefit from your treatment?" Compared to only 18% of the placebo group.

Results like these are not surprising to Dr. Seipel who single-handedly pioneered the bladder care category in the early 2000's, receiving an award for her work from the prestigious U.S. Nutrition Business Journal.

The patented formula consists of a proprietary blend of select, synergistically paired botanicals. All chosen because of their ability to support healthy urinary and kidney function, maintain the health of the urinary tract and improve bladder tone. Dr. Seipel searched for over 15 years to find the perfect nutrients for her blend.

International Decrease In Adult Diaper Use

"Over-active bladder syndrome is a widely spread problem," says Dr. Seipel. Many of the individuals are forced to wear adult diapers. And insiders in the adult diaper market are keeping a close eye on Dr. Seipel's research. They don't want to lose their good customers like 78 year-old retired teacher Glenda B.

Glenda wore adult diapers every day to guard against accidents. "My bladder capacity was good, but the leakage and the accidents would occur without warning. So I wore them every day," confessed Glenda.



Finally a clinically proven pill solution to ease all your bladder problems.

Since Glenda discovered Dr. Seipel's Bladder Control formula, you won't find her shopping in the adult diaper section of the store anymore.

"After only two months on UriVarx, I reduced my need to wear my diapers. Now I manage very well, thank you," says Glenda. And Glenda's results are similar to many in a recent study. In fact, of those who reported using adult diapers at the beginning of the study 75% of them no longer needed them after just 8 weeks, compared to only 5% of the placebo group.

Enlarged Prostate or Bladder Issues?

Symptoms of an overactive bladder can mimic those caused by an enlarged prostate, confusing many men. Dr. Seipel explains, "Prostate enlargement restricts urine flow. The bladder compensates for this by trying harder and harder to push urine out." As pressure in the bladder increases, so do instances of urinary urgency and frequency. Long after prostate issues are handled, many men still experience the same symptoms, thanks to their now overactive bladder.

Great Results Whether You're a Man or a Woman

"Because male and female bladders, other than size are identical," says D. Seipel, "The formula works equally well for both men and women."

"It's a his-and-hers formula," she grins. David M., a 46 year old male can attest to this. "I was having to go to the toilet every hour or so and I had to go to the toilet at least four times per night."

For weeks after starting UriVarx, David says, "My trips to the toilet have definitely reduced and I'm having much better sleep, getting up maybe once per night."

If you're ready to alleviate the uncontrollable urge to urinate, forcing you to make frantic trips to the bathroom, and instead want the confidence and security that a healthier bladder can bring to your life, here's your risk free opportunity.

Metro New York Readers Qualify for a Special Discount

To encourage you to experience the life-changing effect UriVarx™ can have, Innovus Pharmaceuticals is offering a special discount for Metro New York readers – but only for a very limited time. An order Hotline has been set up for local readers. Simply call 1-800-720-0678. Supplies are limited, so they will only be taking orders for the next 72 hours. If you miss this opportunity, you may have to wait until the next production run in a few weeks. We expect phone lines to be busy, so please be patient.

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The 'K' in Knicks stands for Kristaps

A look at how Kristaps Porzingis has taken New York by storm.

TONY WILLIAMS
@TBone8
sports@metro.us

The new face of the Knicks' most recent charity movement is someone not born or raised in North America, but rather a young Latvian who's taken the city — and the hearts of New Yorkers — by storm.

He's only been a Knick for about 18 months, but Kristaps Porzingis has increasingly continued to plant roots deeper in New York with each charitable endeavor attached to his name. And it's not just his name that he's lending, as the 21-year old is a hands-on philanthropist, giving his time as much as any New York-area sports star today.

He noted that he's become a proud New Yorker, and is thrilled with the prospect of becoming a mainstay on the charity circuit, and is especially happy to work with children.

"It's my home now," Porzingis said. "To see the smiles on their faces and know I'm doing something to help out means so much. It's been great.



Kristaps Porzingis high-fives fans after a game against the Trail Blazers on Nov. 22, 2016 at Madison Square Garden. NBAE/GETTY IMAGES

The way the city has embraced me has been incredible."

Since arriving in New York as the fourth-overall pick in the 2015 NBA Draft, Porzingis has been a man about town for numerous charitable events. Whether arriving at Rockefeller Center on a party bus with over a dozen children, donned in a Santa Claus hat; taking selfies

with any passerby who asks; or doing silent work like providing gifts to children during the holiday season, Porzingis has entrenched himself in the city and its constituents.

His most recent outreach has been his pledge to donate \$500 per block in the name of the Ben Jobe Educational and Scholarship Fund. The money will be allocat-

ed to provide RENS participants with free tutoring, SAT preparation, and tuition money for third- to eighth-grade students.

Outside of perhaps New York Giants wideout Odell Beckham Jr., there's no hotter and more popular young athlete in the area, so it makes sense that organizations have been trying to attach themselves with the ris-

ing star.

The charity campaign, known as "KrisSTOPS," officially began on Nov. 20 when the Knicks hosted the Hawks. And while Porzingis didn't register a block, he's been on a defensive tear lately. Even with former defensive stalwart Joakim Noah on the team, Porzingis has emerged as the Knicks' best defensive player. He

Zinger

Porzingis has been at the forefront of several recent Knicks wins, including a 106-104 win over the Timberwolves in Minnesota on Wednesday. Porzingis pumped in 29 points in the road victory and he posted 31 points in a win at MSG over Portland two weeks ago.

leads the team in blocks per game (1.5), is tied for second in steals (.8) and tied for first in defensive rebounds (5.4).

"It's a great feeling to give back to the kids," Porzingis said after a recent event. "I have to block everything I can to donate as much money as I can, so I can make an impact. ... This is a special, special thing we're doing here.

With Derek Jeter retired, and other charitable New York sports superstars like Carmelo Anthony and Eli Manning on the back-end of their respective careers, Porzingis is poised to pick up the slack and carry the torch. He's already been accepted as one of New York's own, and has called the city "his home for many, many years."

3 things to watch for as Giants face Steelers on the road

Before the New York Giants can look ahead to next week's nationally televised home game against the Dallas Cowboys, they first have a little game at the Pittsburgh Steelers (Sunday, 4:25 p.m., Fox) to take care of. A game that a month ago didn't seem like it would mean much for either team.

But then the Giants and Steelers both had to get hot.

The Giants are now on a six-game winning streak. Sunday's win at the Cleveland Browns pushing them to 8-3 on the season. And since a devastating 35-30 loss to the Dallas Cowboys on Nov. 13, the Steelers have rattled off two straight wins to work their way back into the AFC's



Shane Vereen could make his return to the Giants backfield this Sunday. GETTY IMAGES

murky playoff picture.

This game has massive implications for both teams and their respective playoff implications.

1. Getting that rush

Last week, the Giants defense got after Browns quarterback Josh McCown, who was constantly facing pressure from Big Blue's front four. After a quiet start to the season, the Giants defensive line is now generating a legitimate pass rush. Look no further than Jason Pierre-Paul's four sacks last week.

Olivier Vernon had some big plays in Cleveland's backfield too, as did defensive tackle Damon Harrison.

"They're a catalyst for what's going on over

there. That pressure is consistent. Guys like Pierre-Paul and Vernon are leading the charge. I think the thing that's really interesting is the way they dominated in the latter parts of the game," Steelers head coach Mike Tomlin said.

2. Vereen's return

The Giants might get running back Shane Vereen back in the fold, a welcome addition as their ground game continues through fits of promise followed by absolute frustration. The Giants are the league's second worst rushing offense, their total output and yards per carry among the worst in the league.

The injured Vereen would be a welcome ad-

dition alongside Rashad Jennings, who has done some hard running these past few weeks. In limited carries this year, Vereen is averaging an impressive 4.7 yards per carry.

3. Back at it

Antonio Brown is doing bad things this season across the league. The 28-year-old wide receiver is primed for another stellar year, projected for 115 receptions and over 1,400 yards this season.

"He's a great athlete. He's going to do his thing," Giants safety Landon Collins said. "You can stop him or try to stop him but there are some guys you just can't stop. You try and contain him and do the best at that." KRISTIAN DYER

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LEGAL NOTICES

SUPREME COURT COUNTY OF QUEENS

**NYCTL 2014-A TRUST, and
THE BANK OF NEW YORK
MELLON, as paying Agent
and Collateral Agent and
Custodian, for the NYCTL
2014-A Trust,
Plaintiffs - against-
CYNTHIA LAFAYE JOHNSON, et al
Defendant(s).**

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated September 6, 2016, and entered on September 14, 2016, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Supreme Courthouse, 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., in Courtroom # 25, Jamaica, NY on January 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Borough of Queens, County of Queens, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at the point on the northerly side of 148th Road, distant 144.71 feet easterly from the corner formed by the intersection of the northerly side of 148th Road with the easterly side of 235th Street; being a plot 100 feet by 60 feet by 100 feet by 60 feet. Block: 13732 Lot: 21. Said premises known as 235-11 148TH ROAD, ROSEDALE, NY. Approximate amount of lien \$17,386.47 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale.

Index Number 705825/2015.
PHILLIP L. BASKERVILLE, ESQ.,
Referee
Seyfarth Shaw LLP Attorney(s)
for Plaintiffs 620 Eighth Avenue
New York, NY 10018

NOTICE OF FORMATION
of Dong & Li Family LLC.
Articles of Org. filed with the
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SUPREME COURT

COUNTY OF QUEENS NYCTL
1998-2 TRUST, and THE BANK
OF NEW YORK MELLON, as
Paying Agent and Collateral
Agent and Custodian for the
NYCTL 1998-2 TRUST, Plaintiffs
-against-

MICHAEL MAHON, KAREN
BRACEY, et al. Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated September 15, 2016 and entered on September 29, 2016, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Supreme Courthouse, 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., in Courtroom # 25, Jamaica, NY on January 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York, known as Tax Lot 1 in Block 16266 on the tax map of the City of New York, Borough of Queens, as said tax map was on August 08, 2013. Said premises known as 132-15 NEWPORT AVENUE, BELLE HARBOR, NY.

Approximate amount of lien \$49,800.58 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale.

Index Number 7903/2014 Guy R.
VITACCO JR., ESQ.,

Referee

Sayfarth Shaw LLP
Attorney(s) for Plaintiffs
620 Eighth Avenue
New York, NY 10018

SUPREME COURT

COUNTY OF QUEENS
NYCTL 1998-2 TRUST, and THE
BANK OF NEW YORK MELLON,
as Paying Agent and Collateral
Agent and Custodian for the
NYCTL 1998-2 TRUST, Plaintiffs

-against-

LALLI BAWA DEVELOPERS INC.,
et al. Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated September 16, 2016 and entered on September 29, 2016, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Supreme Courthouse, 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., in Courtroom # 25, Jamaica, NY on January 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York, Being more particularly bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the northerly side of Lockwood Court, distant 365.00 feet westerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the northerly side Lockwood Court with the westerly side of 104th Street; being a plot 27.50 feet by 80 feet by 27.50 feet by 80.00 feet. Said premises known as 102-07 LOCKWOOD COURT, HOWARD BEACH, NY Approximate amount of lien \$16,669.60 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. Index Number 13550/2010. DIANA C. GIANTURCO, ESQ., Referee David A. Gallo & Associates LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiffs 95-25 Queens Boulevard, 11th Floor Rego Park, NY 11374

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SUPREME COURT

COUNTY OF QUEENS NYCTL
1998-2 TRUST, and THE BANK
OF NEW YORK MELLON, as
Paying Agent and Collateral
Agent and Custodian for the
NYCTL 1998-2 TRUST, Plaintiffs
-against-

MARLENE MANRAGH,
et al. Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated October 21, 2016 and entered on November 1, 2016, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Supreme Courthouse, 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., in Courtroom # 25, Jamaica, NY on January 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. premises situate, lying and being in the County of Queens, Borough of Queens, City and State of New York, bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the easterly side of Brown Avenue, distant 115 feet Northerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the Easterly side of Brown Avenue and the Northerly side of Remsen Street; being a plot 100 feet by 25 feet by 100 feet by 25 feet. Block: 12160 Lot: 2 Said premises known as 110-45 156th STREET, QUEENS, NY.

Approximate amount of lien \$16,669.60 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale.

Index Number 704975/2014
CHARLES EDWIN LAPP III, ESQ.,

Referee

Sayfarth Shaw LLP
Attorney(s) for Plaintiffs
620 Eighth Avenue New York,
NY 10018.

SUPREME COURT

COUNTY OF QUEENS
CITIMORTGAGE, INC., Plaintiffs
-against-

TEEPU KHAN, et al. Defendant(s).

Pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure and Sale dated August 13, 2015, I, the undersigned Referee will sell at public auction at the Queens County Supreme Courthouse, 88-11 Sutphin Blvd., in Courtroom # 25, Jamaica, NY on January 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. premises situate, lying and being in the Borough and County of Queens, City and State of New York, Being more particularly bounded and described as follows: BEGINNING at a point on the northerly side of Lockwood Court, distant 365.00 feet westerly from the corner formed by the intersection of the northerly side Lockwood Court with the westerly side of 104th Street; being a plot 27.50 feet by 80 feet by 27.50 feet by 80.00 feet. Said premises known as 102-07 LOCKWOOD COURT, HOWARD BEACH, NY Approximate amount of lien \$16,669.60 plus interest & costs. Premises will be sold subject to provisions of filed Judgment and Terms of Sale. If the sale is set aside for any reason, the Purchaser at the sale shall be entitled only to a return of deposit paid. The purchaser shall have no further recourse against the Mortgagee, the Mortgagee or the Mortgagee's attorney. Index Number 13550/2010. DIANA C. GIANTURCO, ESQ., Referee David A. Gallo & Associates LLP Attorney(s) for Plaintiffs 95-25 Queens Boulevard, 11th Floor Rego Park, NY 11374

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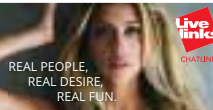
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5 Tuned in
10 Kind of pilot
14 "It Walks by Night" author
15 Generous one
16 — vera
17 Hindu fire god
18 Weight unit
19 Thursday eponym
20 Favor
22 Cuba neighbor
23 Took to court
24 Sir's companion
26 English racetrack
29 Most humble
33 Dark ale
34 Gauguin and Simon
35 Phone ABC
36 Like a bow string
37 Lightbulb units
38 Practice pull-ups
39 Turtle-to-be
40 Lord Vader
41 Jangle
42 Go over the lines
44 Frigid and temperate
45 Omigosh!
46 Hairy twin
48 Strongly advises
51 Confronting boldly
55 Hoodwink

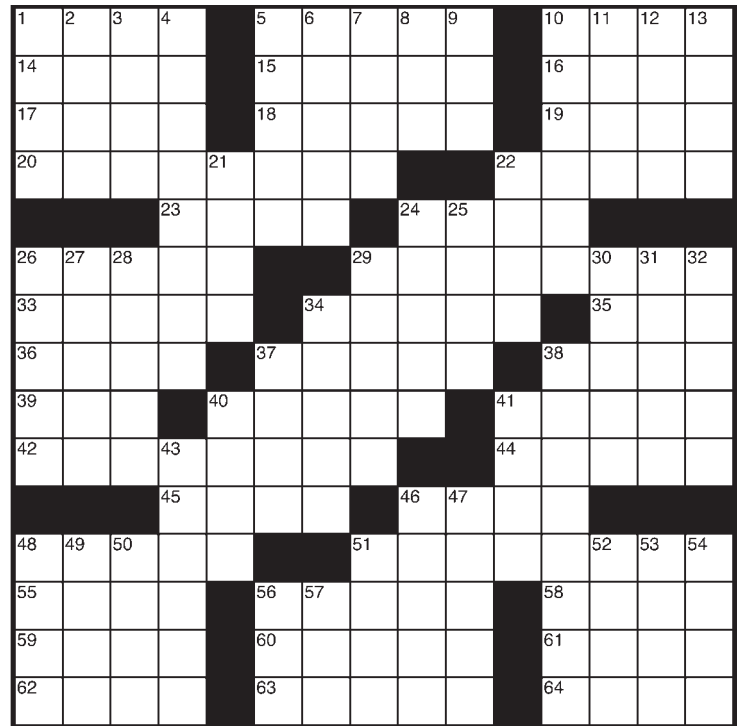
- 56 Does perfectly
58 Goddess's statue
59 All, in combos
60 Tells all
61 A Saarinen
62 Nut, actually
63 Groom a horse
64 Widen a hole

Down

- 1 Trauma aftermath
2 Use a beeper
3 Kinds of eagles
4 Seasons firewood (2 wds.)
5 Hacienda brick
6 Is willing to

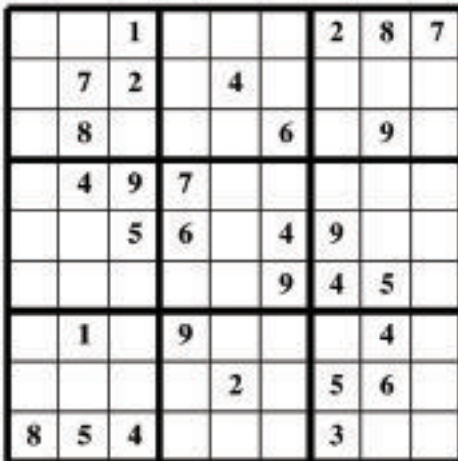
- 7 Ms. Hathaway
8 Big bird of myth
9 Sooner than
10 Japanese mat
11 Pre-college
12 Grime
13 Hatcher or Garr
21 Stray dog
22 Greer and Roach
24 Say silently
25 Leather punches
26 Late bloomer
27 Phase
28 Flu symptom
29 Espresso with milk
30 Hawke of "Alive"
31 Razorbacks
32 Ice grabbers
34 Do Latin homework
37 Bend out of shape
38 Not as blue
40 Podium
41 Movie mogul
43 Place for shadow
46 Lamprey hunter
47 Brash
48 Alien spacecraft
49 Colosseum site
50 Missing
51 Ethiopian dollar
52 — fixe
53 Director — Ephron
54 Latch onto
56 "Friends" network
57 Amateur-sports org.

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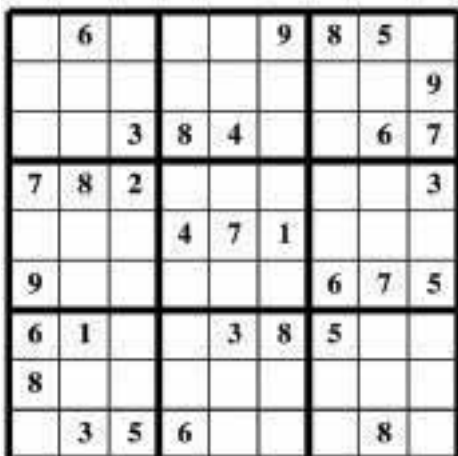


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easy



hard



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Aries The unpredictable nature of what's going on around you will be unnerving. Take a disciplined approach to your responsibilities and don't lose sight of your goals.



Taurus Keep life simple. Hanging out with the wrong people will lead to loss, injury or emotional stress. Make personal improvements and invest in your future.



Gemini A change of attitude or mood will develop if an unexpected loss occurs due to a lack of insight. Make sure you do your homework before you take on a task.



Cancer Take it easy when it comes to your health and physical wellness. Too much of anything will lead to trouble. Focus on love and nurturing important relationships.



Leo Bring about positive change at work and home by pursuing what makes you happy. Have faith in your ability to get things done.



Virgo Set aside a space at home to develop or expand a project you want to pursue, or attend a networking event. Romance is highlighted.



Libra Emotions will surface when you deal with personal or domestic matters. Don't let anyone use manipulative tactics to guilt you into something you don't agree with.



Scorpio Plan an adventure or sign up for something that will help you develop skills, experience and knowledge. Doing your own thing will lead to discord with someone.



Sagittarius Design a blueprint that you know will work, and present what you have to offer with confidence. Stick to your plans to stop others from taking advantage of you.



Capricorn Emotions will flare up if you get into conversations with people in positions of authority. Don't burn bridges, or you will end up getting left with a messy cleanup job.

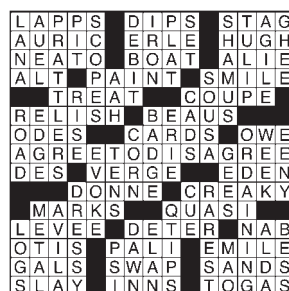


Aquarius Keep your plans simple and your goals realistic. There is plenty to gain by being prepared and taking your time to go over the small but important details.



Pisces If you want to get ahead, stop being so accommodating and stay focused on your own passion. Develop an idea and call in favors that will lead to success. **EUGENIA LAST**

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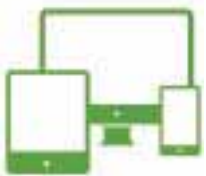
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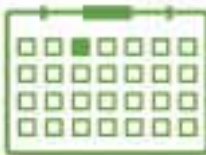


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